

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 00963 201044Z

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AEC-11 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /155 W

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R 201011Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2016

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

COMIDEASTFOR

CINCPAC

CINCLANT

CINCUSNAVEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 0963

MILITARY FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MARR XO SO US UR

SUBJECT: SIAD STATEMENT ON INDIAN OCEAN

REF: A. MOGADISCIO 634

B. MOGADISCIO 910

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SIAD'S ANSWER TO QUESTION ON  
SUPER POWER RIVALRY IN INDIAN OCEAN DURING HIS JUNE 18  
PRESS CONFERENCE BETRAYED CONTINUING SENSITIVITY TO  
CHARGES THAT THERE ARE SOVIET BASES IN SOMALIA AND  
REFRAINED FROM SPECIFIC COMMENT ON DIEGO GARCIA.  
END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 MOGADI 00963 201044Z

2. SIAD STATED THAT GSDR FELT THERE SHOULD BE NO  
BASES IN INDIAN OCEAN AND CHARACTERIZED AS "LIE AND

UTTER NONSENSE" SPECULATIONG BY "CERTAIN  
QUARTERS" THAT USSR HAS BASES IN SOMALIA. HE  
CONTINUED:

BEGIN QUOTE

THE SOVIET UNION HAS NEVER ASKED TO HAVE A BASE  
IN SOMALIA AND WE WILL NEVER ALLOW IT. THESE ABOVE  
MENTIONED QUARTERS HAVE MADE THESE SPECULATIONS TO  
JUSTIFY THE MILITARY BASES WHICH THEY WANT TO BUILD  
IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE AIM BEHIND THESE ALLEGATIONS  
IS TO CONFUSE WORLD PUBLIC OPINION AND I AM PREPARED  
TO SHOW JOURNALISTS AREAS WHERE THESE QUARTERS CLAIM  
SOVIET MILITARY BASES ARE LOCATED. IF THE SUPER POWERS  
WANT TO QUARREL, LET THEM GO TO THEIR PLACES AND LEAVE  
US ALONE TO LIVE IN PEACE.

END QUOTE

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT SIAD HAS PREVIOUSLY DENIED  
THAT SOVIETS HAVE, OR WOULD BE PERMITTED TO HAVE,  
BASES IN SOMALIA (REF A), BUT THIS IS A THEME WHICH  
HE OBVIOUSLY FEELS NEEDS REITERATING. WE ALSO NOTE  
THAT SIAD REFRAINED FROM SPECIFIC MENTION OF DIEGO  
GARCIA, THUS LEAVING HIS OPENING STATEMENT TO OAU  
SUMMIT (REF B), AS ONLY SPECIFIC GSDR REFERENCE TO  
THAT FACILITY OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE. WE WERE PLEASANTLY  
STRUCK BY SIAD'S FINAL STATEMENT WHICH SEEMS TO TREAT  
US AND USSR IN UNUSUALLY EVEN-HANDED MANNER. WE NOTE,  
HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS OMITTED FROM GSDR'S WRITTEN VERSION  
OF SIAD'S REMARKS. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT WHOLE  
SUBJECT OF BASES AND DIEGO GARCIA IS UNCOMFORTABLE ONE  
FOR SOMALIS AND THAT THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO MAKE MAJOR  
CAMPAIGN ON THE SUBJECT.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIEGO GARCIA, MILITARY BASES, PRESS CONFERENCES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, XO, SO, US, UR, (SIYAD BARRE, MOHAMED)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005